

THE CLARION.

BY POWER & BARSDALE.

Official Journal of the State of Mississippi.

ONE YEAR, \$1.50.

SEVEN MONTHS, 1.00.

Entered at the Postoffice at Jackson as Second-Class Mail Matter.

The new tariff increases the import duty from ten per cent. to thirty per cent. on works of art.

READ the article in another column from the Port Gibson Reveille, entitled "The Power of Corporations."

Appointment by the Governor.

Hon. Sylvanus Evans, of Clarke county, Chancellor of the Seventh Judicial District of Mississippi, vice Hon. George Wood, deceased.

CANDIDATES for the Legislature are coming out faster than we can note them. Among the latest and best, we are gratified to announce the Hon. J. D. W. Duckworth, of Rankin.

MESSRS. GREEN, HAMILTON & CO., contractors of this city, have entered suit here against the Memphis, Selma and Brunswick Railroad for \$50,000 damages for non-payment of labor performed. The contractors have a lien on the work done by them, which amounts to much more than the damages claimed. The indebtedness of the company to the contractors is said to be near \$150,000. It is understood that a Receiver is to be appointed for the road.

WITHOUT a word of dissent from his constituents, and in full accord with their wish, Gen. George introduced a bill in the United States Senate to regulate freights and fares and to prevent discrimination and overcharges by common carriers engaged in the interstate transportation. If the passage of such a bill is the right thing for Congress to do for all the States, as it unquestionably is, why is it not the right thing for the Legislature to do so for one of the States?

Our valued countyman, Mr. H. O. Dixon, a prominent Granger and officer of the State Grange, furnishes for our columns a very satisfactory and clear explanation of the purposes of the Grange. Repelling the charge that it is a partisan organization, or striving for mere political ends, he shows that while it seeks the advancement of agriculture and the elevation, and protection of that grand cornerstone of industry, it is not restrained from discussing questions of political economy and their bearing upon the welfare of the country, and especially upon the pursuit of agriculture. In this connection, we may properly quote from the Declaration of Purposes adopted by the National Grange: "The principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good to the greatest number. We must bear in mind, that not only by becoming a Patron of Husbandry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen who takes a proper interest in the politics of his country."

Pure Democratic Doctrine.

For instruction and inspiration we have reproduced the platforms of the Democratic party for the past forty odd years. They are founded on the good old Jeffersonian rule of "Equal and exact justice to all." Therefore, true Democracy antagonizes monopolies in every form, and on the question of taxation, whether direct or in the shape of duties on imports from other countries, it holds that it should be imposed with the intent and result only of getting money into the treasury for the support of the government, and not to grant bounties to any class.

Our compilation is much fuller, and more accurate, than the one which is going the rounds of the press credited to the New York World.

It is proper to say that the letter published in our last paper on the election of Judges is from the pen of one of the soundest lawyers in Mississippi. He has no grudges to satisfy. He has not been an applicant for appointment, nor any particular friend of his that we know of. Nor has he been an aspirant for political office. But he has rendered efficient service for the Democratic party, and loves its principles, and strives to maintain them for their own sake. It would be well to heed his words of wisdom and patriotism. Referring to the letter of our correspondent, the Vicksburg Post says:

We print to-day a well-written article on the subject of the election of Judges. Its author is a correspondent of THE CLARION, from which we copy it, and makes many strong points in behalf of his side of the question—the election of Judges by the people.

A Prediction.

That the next Legislature will not pass a Railroad Supervision bill.—Jackson State Ledger.

In view of the number of railroads that are in course of construction in the State, since the Legislature of 1882, when the last grand effort was made to fetter them with "supervision" before they were built, the Ledger might have put it a little stronger, and asserted that it is a moral certainty that a supervision bill will not be passed.—Aberdeen Examiner.

When the bill was pending to supervise corporations in accordance with the platform of the Democracy, it was absurdly urged by the opponents of supervision and the corporation lobbyists, that the effect of its passage would be to deter foreign capital from investment in several contemplated railroad enterprises. The device induced some members who are in favor of the principle, to consent to the postponement of the measure from considerations of expediency, but with the reservation that it was to be a postponement only, and of short duration. This device would not have availed, however, but for the differences which sprang up, and were shrewdly encouraged by the opposers of supervision, among its friends. On repeated test votes very large majorities were found to be in favor of a supervision law. By one means and another, action was prevented with the implied condition, however, that the delay should be temporary. Two more years will have passed. The most important of the contemplated enterprises which it was urged were in danger of indefinite postponement, will have been accomplished. And the people are now treated to a "prediction" that at the coming session of the Legislature the same performance is to be played over again.

In answer to their demand for the enforcement of the doctrine which has been sanctioned by the example of twenty-four States, and among them, the most progressive in the South—the doctrine that common carriers are subject to State control in the interest, and for the protection of the people—they are told they must "wait." Now we are not a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but we will make a "prediction," that they will be told the same thing in 1885 and in 1887 and 1889, and so on until the crack of doom; or until the issue is definitely settled whether the State or the corporations shall control. For reasons which are natural, the corporations, looking to their side of the question and forgetting that the State's right of eminent domain which they have exercised, carries with it the right of the State to control them—don't want their business interfered with.

We will venture another "prediction," that the longer supervisory legislation is delayed—the longer Mississippi is kept out of the line of Progress on which nearly all the Northern States, and Georgia and Tennessee, and Alabama, Kentucky and Missouri, have taken up their line of march—the harder will be the struggle of the State to establish its supremacy. But the question will be fought out, and as ours is a government of the People, and for the People, the People will triumph in the end. Make a note of that "prediction."

We may add, that the blindest pretence that was ever attempted upon credulity is that supervisory legislation is inimical to railroads and will deter capital from investment in railroad enterprises. In the face of all the experience which proves precisely the reverse, it hasn't even plausibility. Years ago, when Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and other States inaugurated such legislation, they had, comparatively, but few railroads. Since then, with supervisory legislation in full force, they have been networked with them. You had as well say that no hacks would be run within the limits of a corporation—or that no rivers would be bridged—if the owners of hacks and bridges are restricted in their charges. Whenever, and wherever, a demand exists for an enterprise, it will be supplied. Capitalists know that railroads pay better than any other investment. For example, there are five railroad potentates in the United States who are worth five hundred millions of dollars, which they made by railroading. The People are just. They want these money barons to live and will protect them in the enjoyment of their wealth, but they must protect themselves also. It will be their own fault if they don't do it.

THE Philadelphia Times says that the next Congress will promptly and by an overwhelming vote demand the absolute repeal of the whole internal revenue system and the abolition of Commissioner Raum's entire army of political dependents, and the Senate and the President will not dare to resist the action of the House; and that the whole corrupt organization must go. The Times does not seem to remember that one branch of Congress is under the control of the Protectionists. But this will not release the Democratic majority in the other branch from the performance of their duty. We will see.

THE Vicksburg Post and the Herald have published on responsible authority that Mr. C. S. Jones, a contractor of the New Orleans and Memphis road, has been guilty of committing, or permitting to be committed, inhuman cruelties to county prisoners for whose labor he has contracted. We have not space for the shocking details. The grand jury of Warren county is in session, and we presume will give the matter prompt attention. Mr. Jones has authorized a denial of his complicity with the cruelties. If innocent he should not suffer. The offenders, whoever they may be, should suffer the severest penalties of the law. To prevent misapprehension, Col. J. S. Hamilton has published that the prisoners referred to are not Penitentiary convicts. None of the latter are at work on the New Orleans and Memphis road.

HON. O. R. SINGLETON is reported by a correspondent of the Courier-Journal as saying that "three monied powers in Congress who always vote together and defeat every public measure which conflicts with their supposed interests. These are the bankers, the manufacturers, or, in other words, the high protectionists, and the railroad corporations." He said:

Before the expiration of the twenty years, which limited the charters of the first national banks, quietly and without arousing any suspicion these banks elected to Congress ninety Representatives, who were either bank Presidents, directors or stockholders. When the question of reorganization of the banks came up, these ninety, with the alliance of the high tariff and railroad men, had things their own way. The banks are opposed to liquidating the national debt, because that would destroy the national banks. High tariff men are opposed to its payment, because they would no longer have an excuse for protection, and the railroad kings will combine with any other power to protect themselves. These interests are important and represent a large population, but they are greedy and inimical to the advancement of a population of many more millions of people who have equal rights.

THE Farmers Club in Madison county is in full and successful operation. MAJ. E. G. WALL, Commissioner of Agriculture, is one of the Directors of the Patron of Husbandry Publishing Company.

MR. W. C. MCQUISTON has severed his connection with the editorial management of the Pascagoula Democrat-Star.

HON. J. E. ELLIS Representative in Congress from Louisiana, thinks of resigning to take professional employment in New York.

THE act passed by the Tennessee Legislature making gambling a felony has gone into effect, and the gambling fraternity all over the State, have shut up shop.

LAST week eighteen indictments were found against Charles Lehman, clerk of the Warren Circuit Court for forgery, and it was not a good week for finding indictments either.

THE Crystal Springs Meteor notes that Mr. T. R. Flemming of that vicinity had peaches ready for market on the 9th of May. The Meteor has christened the fruit Flemming Extra Early.

It has been decided to construct a branch line of the New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Vicksburg and Memphis Railroad, from Greenville, Miss., to some point in Sharkey county, above Rolling Fork in this State. The branch will be forty miles long.

THE Connecticut Legislature has passed a bill providing for the organization of a Board of Pardons, to consist of the Governor of the State, one of the Judges of the State Supreme Court and four persons to be chosen by the Legislature, one of whom must be a physician.

THE Secretary of the Treasury has decided to disburse the \$100,000 appointed by Congress, for sanitary purposes, through the Marine Hospital Service, in disregard of the petition of the Mississippi Valley Sanitary Council and the almost undivided wish of the people of the valley.

THE Meridian Sun has discontinued its identity and consolidated with the Patron of Husbandry, the first number of which will be issued at Meridian under its new management on the 24th. Mr. Dement, late of the Sun, will be the business manager of the Patron, and Mr. McArthur, the editor.

BROWN'S WELLS, Copiah county, are famous for their valuable mineral properties. The Crystal Springs Meteor says that the Illinois Central R. R. Company is negotiating for them. It is intended by the Company to expend a large sum in erecting hotels, beautifying the grounds and adding attractions which will invite the healthy as well as the sick.

Our members of Congress have invariably supported bills that have been introduced into that body to regulate charges by Railroads whose lines extend from one State to another. They did so by and with the advice and consent of their constituents. If it is the right thing for Congress to pass such a measure for all the States, why is it not the right thing for State Legislature to do the same for a single State?

A SHREWD contemporary says there is no doubt that bad men are frequently elected to office, but there is great doubt whether it is an improvement to lodge the power of appointing officials in the hands of a few persons. The country might be better served to-day if the Postmasters and the Federal Judges were elected. Some of the most serious evils of the time result from the subservience of appointed officials to influences inimical to the public welfare.

It is well that Jay Gould disposed of the New York World. It was a sham Democratic paper, owned and run in the interest of the money power. In the memorable Presidential canvass of 1868, on the eve of the election it threw up the sponge for Seymour, the Democratic candidate, proclaimed his defeat inevitable, and proposed a change of programme on a false pretense, but really because he was committed to a platform which declared for "Equal taxation of every description of property according to its real value including United States bonds and other public securities," and furthermore that "where the obligations of the government do not expressly state upon their face that they shall be paid in coin (gold or silver), they ought in right and justice to be paid in the lawful money of the United States" (viz, greenbacks.)

HON. S. S. COX, of New York, in order to avoid the supposition that he is indulging his proclivity for joking, says that he is a candidate for Speaker in earnest. On the main issues, he is orthodox; and twenty-two years service has made him a thorough parliamentarian.

The Logic of The Thing.

"The power to supervise corporations can be maintained on the ground that the same sovereignty which gives railroad companies the right of eminent domain—the right to drive a man from his home and deprive him of what at common law is his castle, and to use it for public purposes, carries with it the right to regulate and control these corporations in the use of this property."

In support of this doctrine, Judge Cooley, eminent authority, said: "I do not understand that the right of eminent domain can be exercised on behalf of private parties, or corporations unless the State permitting it reserves to itself a right to supervise and control the use by such regulation as will ensure to the public the benefit promised thereby, and as shall preclude the purpose which the public had in view in authorizing the appropriation being defeated by partiality or unreasonable, selfish action on the part of those who only on the ground of public convenience and welfare have been suffered to make the appropriation. People vs. Township Board of Salem, 20, Michigan, 483.

THE Crystal Springs Meteor says that Brown's Wells in Copiah county, famous for their valuable mineral properties, have been purchased.

THE Westville News announces the death of a good citizen of Simpson county, Mr. Daniel B. Weathersby, aged about 50 years. He had filled the office of Sheriff for ten consecutive years.

AN exchange shrewdly suggests that it would be better for the Democratic party to let the caldron boil and bubble some more before picking out Presidential candidates. This is not a case where the early bird catches the worm. It is a case where early worm crawls too soon.

THE way to get the corporation supervision question out of Mississippi politics, is to follow the example which has been set by Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Illinois, and twenty other States, and settle it by just and proper legislation.

HAVING published a notice that Mr. P. W. McKittrick had sent one million silk worms eggs for gratuitous distribution in Mississippi, we feel bound to publish the letter of Capt. J. R. Eggleston, exposing some of his transactions as a warning to the public. Capt. Eggleston's theory is that he is giving away his remnant of eggs as a means of advancing himself with a view to future operations of the kind related in his (Capt. E's) letter.

SPEAKING of the election of Judges, we have yet to hear the first syllable of complaint against the resolution introduced by Senator George on the 18th January, 1882, to change the Constitution of the United States so as to provide for the election of Circuit and United States District Judges by the people. Now, if it is proper for the people to elect United Judges, why is it not proper for them to elect State Judges?

THE Vicksburg Herald is moved with compassion for the Governor. It says that he will be terribly troubled by the importunities of applicants for appointment of Railroad Commissioners, if a law should be passed enforcing the Democratic doctrine of supervision. Its strongest argument, we have heard on that side; but the obstacle, great as it is, is not necessarily insurmountable. It can be provided that the People shall elect as they do in some of the States; or if that does not suit, the Legislature might perform that delicate trust.

HON. JOEL P. WALKER is announced as a candidate for the State Senate in Lauderdale. He is an able, thoughtful, progressive, and at the same time, a conservative man, worthy to represent in the councils of the State, the Empire county of the East. He and Capt. Hardy of whom we recently spoke, are candidates for the nomination, and we are pleased to learn from the Meridian papers they occupy the same positions upon some of the most important subjects that will engage the attention of the Legislature.

After putting the above in type, we have observed the announcement of Mr. J. C. Robert, who is also highly commended, for the place—making the contest three-cornered.

A DEPUTATION of colored men attended the meeting of the County Democratic Executive Convention at Raymond, Monday, and in the appointment of county officers, they asked for their race the nomination of two Representatives; 1 member of the Board of Supervisors, the assessor and coroner. The matter was referred to the Democratic County Convention which will be at an early day. The support which will be guaranteed the ticket from the colored voters, will no doubt enter largely into the determination of the question.

THE Democratic Executive Committee of Lauderdale county have issued a call for a mass meeting of the Democratic voters of the county on Saturday, June 9th.

Time-Honored Democratic Doctrine.

The Party of the People.

"Resolved, That justice and want policy forbid the federal government to enter one branch of industry to the detriment of another, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country—that every citizen and every worker of the country have a right to demand and insist upon an equality of demands and privileges, and to complete and ample protection of persons and property from domestic violence on foreign aggression." This resolution was reaffirmed in the Platforms of 1844, and 1860.

THE PLATFORM OF 1844.

In addition to the foregoing: "Resolved, That it is duty of every branch of the government to enforce and practice the most rigid economy in conducting our public affairs, and that more revenue ought to be raised than required to defray the expenses of government and for the gradual certain reduction of the public debt (incurred by the war with Mexico).

"Resolved, * * * That a high sacred duty is devolved upon the Democratic party, as the Party of the People, to sustain and advance constitutional liberty, fraternity, equality, by continuing to oppose monopolies and exclusive legislation to the benefit of the few, at the expense of the many, and by a vigilant adherence to those principles and precepts of the Constitution, which uphold the Union as it was, and be in the full expansion of the capacity of this great and progressive people." The same Platform recommended "the noble impulse given by cause of free trade by the repeal of tariff in 1842 and the creation of more equal, honest and productive of 1846."

THE PLATFORM OF 1860.

reaffirmed the foregoing declaration and added— "That the liberal principles enunciated by Jefferson in the Declaration of independence and sanctioned in the constitution which makes ours the land of liberty, and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been national principles in the Democratic, and every attempt to abridge the privilege of becoming citizens and one soil among us ought to be resisted the same spirit that swept Alaska Sedition laws from our statute books.

THE PLATFORM OF 1868.

reaffirmed the foregoing declaration and proclaimed further: "That the American Democracy, their trust in the intelligence, patriotism and discriminating justice of the American People." (In 1860 the Democratic party divided on the issue.)

THE PLATFORM OF 1872.

"Payment of all the public debt rapidly as practicable—all money from the People by taxation, and as much as is required for the government economically administered; and where the obligations of government do not expressly state their face, or the law under which they were issued does not provide that they shall be paid in coin, they ought in right and justice to be paid in the lawful money" (viz, greenbacks) "of the United States."

"Equal taxation of every species of property according to its real value including government bonds and securities."

"Economy in the administration of the government, * * * the reduction of the system and discontinuance of the inquisitorial modes of collecting internal revenue, a tariff for revenue upon foreign goods, and such equal taxation under the national revenue laws as will afford protection to domestic manufactures, and as will without impairing revenue, impose the least burden upon the best promote and encourage the industrial interests of the country."

PLATFORM OF 1876.

"We demand a system of federal taxation which shall not unnecessarily interfere with the industry of the people and which shall provide the necessary to pay the expenses of government economically administered. * * * and recognizing that in our midst honest but irreconcilable differences of opinion with respect to the respective system of protection free trade, we remit the discussion of the subject to the people in the Congressional Districts and the State at large, the people thereon, wholly free from executive interference or dictation."

PLATFORM OF 1876.

"Reform is necessary in the modes of federal taxation to the